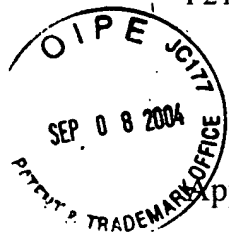


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P21833.A05



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : LEE et al.

Group Art Unit: 3753

Appln. No. : 10/029,973

Examiner: KRISHNAMURTHY

Filed : December 31, 2001

For : CHECK VALVE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
220 20th Street S.
Customer Window, Mail Stop Amendment
Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1B03
Arlington, VA 22202

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, §1.97 and §1.98,
Applicants hereby call the following document, which was cited in a communication from
the Korean Patent Office, dated June 8, 2004, for the counterpart Korean Application, to
the Examiner's attention:

Japanese Patent Publication No. JP 11-287118, which was published on October
19, 1999, along with an English language Abstract thereof.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider and cite the above-noted patent document. A copy of the document, along with the English language Abstract thereof, are attached and have been listed on a PTO-1449 Form which is also attached hereto. Accordingly, the Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the PTO-1449 Form and to return the form to the Applicants with the next official communication in the present application to confirm consideration of this document.

Since this Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted subsequent to issuance of an Official Action, but before issuance of a Final Official Action or a Notice of Allowance, Applicants have provided below a Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e). However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any necessary additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e), the undersigned hereby states that each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement. Of course, this statement does not apply to information that has previously been cited by Applicants or the Examiner in the present application as that information is already of record and no certification is necessary.

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Should there be any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned
at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
LEE et al.

 Reg. No. 48,214

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September 8, 2004
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